

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083919

FOLLOWING REPEAT JAKARTA 4244 ACTION SECSTATE DATED 10 APR 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 4244

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH ID

SUBJ: INDONESIAN AGREEMENT WITH USSR ON AEROSPACE RESEARCH

1. IN MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN JOINT CHIEFS GENERAL BROWN AND ME APRIL 7, INDONESIAN MINISTER DEFENSE GENERAL PANGGABEAN INFORMED US INDONESIA IN FINAL STAGES AGREEMENT ON AEROSPACE RESEARCH WITH SOVIET UNION BECAUSE EARLIER REQUEST FOR US HELP HAD BEEN DENIED. STATEMENT WAS IN CONTEXT OF MINISTER'S EXPLANATION THAT INDONESIA ACCEPTED LIMITED COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC AREAS WITH EASTERN EUROPE BUT SOUGHT TO RESTRICT ACTIVITIES IN SENSITIVE AREAS. AEROSPACE PROJECT WAS POSSIBLE EXCEPTION ALTHOUGH SECURITY ACPECTS STILL BEING EXAMINED.

2. I EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND SAID I WAS UNAWARE OF ANY US REJECTION OF REQUEST FOR SUCH HELP AND REQUESTED OPPORTUNITY EXAMINE MATTER AND DISCUSS FURTHER WITH HEAD OF LAPAN, INDONESIA'S NATIONAL AVIATION AND AEROSPACE INSTITUTE.

3. FILES OF USAID SHOW THAT IN APRIL 1973 INDONESIANS REQUESTED SUPPORT FOR REHABILITATION OF AERONAUTICS RESEARCH CENTER. REQUEST WAS FOR SUPER LOKI DART SOUND-
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ING ROCKETS, LOAN OF HIGH PRECISION TRACKING RADAR, OTHER

EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. REQUEST WAS SUPPLEMENTED IN JUNE 1973 WITH LETTER ASKING FOR HELP IN REHABILITATION OF TWO SOVIET AIRCRAFT USED FOR REMOTE SENSING EXPERIMENTS. ESTIMATE IF FILE SUGGESTED THAT COSTS EXCLUSIVE OF ANY AIRCRAFT COULD RUN OF TO \$100,000.

4. AID WASHINGTON SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISED BY LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 13 FROM H A ARNOLD, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THAT THEY COULD NOT FORESEE AN AID ROLE IN THIS PROJECT. FILES SHOW THAT NASA AND NSF PARTICIPATED IN DECISION. MARSHAL SALATUN OF LAPAN WAS INFORMED.

5. I ASSUME THAT POSSIBILITIES ANY SUCH ASSISTANCE ON GRANT BASIS TO INDONESIA NOW EVEN MORE REMOTE THAN IN 1973. I BRING THIS TO DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION, HOWEVER, BECAUSE INDONESIAN AGREEMENT WITH SOVIETS IN THIS FIELD WOULD REPRESENT FIRST SIGNIFICANT SOVIET ENTRY INTO SCIENTIFIC AREA IN INDONESIA SINCE SUKARNO PERIOD. WHILE FULLY UNDERSTANDING OUR OWN LIMITATIONS, I WOULD NOT WISH LET THIS HAPPEN IF THERE ANY CHANCE OF WASHINGTON AGENCY INTEREST.

6. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE, HOWEVER, I SEE NO CHOICE BUT TO SEE THAT GENERAL PANGGABEAN IS INFORMED OF HISTORY THIS MATTER.

7. PLEASE ADVISE. NEWSOM
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